

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 14 DECEMBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0981-0-01 (ACCNO 0838) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JR. Date Status assigned: 14 Jul 1982

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	02	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No		Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	K453221
Birth date	21 Jul 1943	Weight	185 lb / 83.8 kg	Duty pos	NAVIGATOR
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	OTHER	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QVH774777
Lat/Long: 203560N / 1044659E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: SON LA
(formerly):
Mission District: MOC CHAU
Mission Date: 10 Jan 1968 1607L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Sep 85, Sep 82
Investigations: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4D	Serial: 8704
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J7915
Call Sign: REMATCH 03	1 Serial: 439906
Year: 66	2 Serial: 439909

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0981-1-02 (ACCNO 0804) Status: (T) RELEASED
Name: HALL, KEITH NORMAN Date Status assigned: 14 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	
Grade	03	Hair		Complexion	
SSAN		Eyes		Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	in / 0.00 mtrs	Weapon No	K458223
Birth date		Weight	lb / 0.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State		Religion		PW Camp	HANOI PW DETE

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QVH774777	48QWJ883248
Lat/Long:	203560N / 1044659E	210125N / 1055059E
Country:	NORTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	3
Mission Province:	SON LA	HA NOI
(formerly):		HANOI
Mission District:	MOC CHAU	HOAN KIEM
Mission Date:	10 Jan 1968 1607L	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	Remote area.	None.

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Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4D	Serial: 8704
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J7915
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CASE: 0981

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

26 April 1983

ON 10 JANUARY 1968, 1LT EARL P. HOOPER JR. PILOT, CAPT KEITH N. HALL, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, WERE ABOARD AN F4D AIRCRAFT (#66-8704) NUMBER THREE AIRCRAFT IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR ON A MIG COMBAT AIR PATROL MISSION. FIFTEEN MINUTES FROM HOA LAC AIRFIELD (TARGET) THE FLIGHT WAS ADVISED OF SAM LAUNCH. THE SECOND OF THREE SAM'S WAS OBSERVED TO EXPLODE SLIGHTLY BELOW THE AIRCRAFT. AFTER BEING TOLD BY THE FLIGHT LEADER THAT HE WAS ON FIRE, AND BEING ADVISED BY HIS WINGMAN TO GET OUT, CAPT HALL ADVISED THE FLIGHT THAT THEY WERE EJECTING. (REF 1 & 2)

CAPT HALL TOLD 1LT HOPPER TO EJECT BUT RECEIVED NO REPLY. CAPT HALL SAID "EARL GET OUT", AS THEY DID NOT HAVE MUCH TIME. 1LT HOPPER STATED "I'VE PULLED ON IT AND IT DID NOT GO" (MEANING THAT THE EJECTION SEAT HANDLE FAILED). CAPT HALL ADVISED 1LT HOPPER TO GO AGAIN TO WHICH 1LT HOPPER REPLIED "YOU GO". CAPT HALL PULLED THE PRIMARY AND WHEN IT FAILED PULLED THE ALTERNATE TO EJECT.

THE AIRCRAFT WAS OBSERVED TO BREAK INTO THREE LARGE PIECES AS IT ENTERED THE LOW CLOUD COVERAGE SEVERAL WITNESSES GAVE VARIOUS STORIES. THE FLIGHT LEADER BELIEVED HE SAW A DARK SHAPE LEAVING THE AIRCRAFT. FOLLOWED BY THE SAME TYPE OBJECT, BUT DID NOT SEE EITHER PARACHUTE. A SECOND WITNESS SAW TWO OBJECTS LEAVE AT DIFFERENT TIMES, AND A THIRD SAW NEITHER CANOPY NOR SEATS LEAVE. A FOURTH SAW TWO SPOTS BEHIND THE PLANE, BUT WAS UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT THEY WERE. A FIFTH SAW TWO CANOPIES BUT ONLY ONE SEAT EJECT.

AFTER BAIL OUT ONCE ON THE GROUND CAPT HALL ESTABLISHED VOICE CONTACT WITH THE FLIGHT LEADER, AND THE SAR AIRCRAFT IN THE AREA. HE ALSO HEARD 10 TO 12 ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT 1LT HOPPER BY THE SAR, AS WELL AS ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT 1LT HOPPER HIMSELF, ALL WITHOUT SUCCESS. DUE TO LOW CLOUD COVERAGE SAR AIRCRAFT WAS UNABLE TO EFFECT RESCUE. TWO WEAK BEEPERS WERE HEARD BUT COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED AS COMING FROM 1LT HOPPER. CAPT HALL WAS CAPTURED AND RELEASED DURING OPERATION HOMECOMING. (REF 1 & 2)

WHILE HELD IN CAPTIVITY CAPT HALL NEVER RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON 1LT HOPPER, EXCEPT FOR AN INCIDENT IN AUG 1970, WHILE BEING INTERROGATED FOR ABOUT 10 MIN CONCERNING 1LT HOPPER. CAPT HALL ASKED THE INTERROGATOR IF 1LT HOPPER WAS A POW HE WAS TOLD THAT THE INTERROGATOR DID NOT KNOW. (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. 1LT HOPPERS NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO

CASE: 0981

RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. 1LT HOPPER IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 October 1991

THIS CORRELATION IS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION MEDIA DATA. THE SOURCE PROVIDED THE CORRECT NAME AND PERSONAL DATA OF CAPTAIN EARL P. HOPPER JR IN A COPY OF AN OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT MIA DOCUMENT. (REF 3)

=== REFERENCES ===

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REFERENCES: <1> RPT , 432ND TRW (DPMP), AF FORM 484 W/STATEMENTS, 14 JAN 68. <2> RPT , HQS USAF, (AFMPC/DPMSCB), DEBRIEFING STATEMENT OF LTC KEITH N. HALL, 19 SEPT 75. <3> 91-208, JCRC LNO BKK TH 170820Z JUN 91. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

28 September 1982

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON EARL P. HOPPER JR. WAS PASSED TO THE SRV VIETNAMESE OFFICE FOR SEEKING MISSING PERSONS DURING THE 9-28 SEP 82 NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES VISIT TO HANOI. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED DURING THE 25-28 SEP 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

26 April 1983

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS GIVEN TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN HANOI IN AUG 79 BY MEMBERS OF THE WOLFF DELEGATION. A FOLDER WAS ALSO PASSED TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN DEC 82.

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

26 April 1983

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: EARL P. HOPPER 0981-0-01, AND KEITH N. HALL, 0981-1-02.

CASE: 0981

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

3 December 1993

ON 11 NOV 93, IE2 INVESTIGATED CASE 0981 IN XUAN NHA VILLAGE, MOC CHAU DISTRICT, SON LA PROVINCE. IE2 INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON A PLANE CRASH IN SOUTHERN SON LA PROVINCE. A CREWMAN WAS ALLEGEDLY CAPTURED AND EVENTUALLY TAKEN TO HANOI. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 0981. BOTH WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF A CRASH SITE IN JUL 77. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY FOUND AN UNIDENTIFIED BONE FRAGMENT AMONG THE WRECKAGE. HE STATED HE LOST THE BONE SEVERAL YEARS LATER. HE ALSO FOUND A HELMET, A PARACHUTE, A PISTOL, AND A SEAT. ACCORDING TO THE WITNESS, THESE ITEMS WERE GIVEN TO DISTRICT AUTHORITIES WHO RETURNED THEM TO VILLAGES. THE ITEMS WERE REPORTEDLY DESTROYED THROUGH PERSONAL USE BY THE VILLAGERS. NEITHER INDIVIDUAL HAD FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS INCIDENT. THE ALLEGED CRASH SITE AND THE OFFICIAL INCIDENT LOCATION FOR THIS CASE ARE IN A REMOTE, MOUNTAINOUS REGION, REQUIRING A THREE-TO-FOUR-DAY WALK. THE ROAD LEADING TO THE NEAREST VILLAGE (15 KILOMETERS FROM THE INCIDENT LOCATION FOR CASE 0981) WAS FLOODED. THEREFORE, IE2 WAS UNABLE TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS. (REF 4)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 22 FEBRUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0981-0-01 (ACCNO 0838) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JR. Date Status assigned: 14 Jul 1982

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	O2	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	K453221
Birth date	21 Jul 1943	Weight	185 lb / 83.8 kg	Duty pos	NAVIGATOR
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	OTHER	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QVH774777
Lat/Long: 203560N / 1044659E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: SON LA
(formerly):
Mission District: MOC CHAU
Mission Date: 10 Jan 1968 1607L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Feb 94, Sep 93, Sep 85, Sep 82
Investigations: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4D	Serial: 8704
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J7915
Call Sign: REMATCH 03	1 Serial: 439906
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Name: HALL, KEITH NORMAN Date Status assigned: 14 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	
Grade	03	Hair		Complexion	
SSAN		Eyes		Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	in / 0.00 mtrs	Weapon No	K458223
Birth date		Weight	lb / 0.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
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===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
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Local Analysis:	Remote area.	None.

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Investigations: Oct 93
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	F4D	Serial:	8704
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Call Sign:	REMATCH 03	1 Serial:	439906
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CASE: 0981

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CASE: 0981

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=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

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18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

17 February 1994

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE 3 FEB 94 TECHNICAL MEETING.

CASE: 0981

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

26 April 1983

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: EARL P. HOPPER 0981-0-01, AND KEITH N. HALL, 0981-1-02.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

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Serial No	000080425	Height	70 in /1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	K453221
Birth date	21 Jul 1943	Weight	185 lb / 83.8 kg	Duty pos	NAVIGATOR
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Serial No	61501	Height	in /0.00 mtrs	Weapon No	K458223
Birth date		Weight	lb / 0.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
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DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. 1LT HOPPER'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO

CASE: 0981

RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. 1LT HOPPER IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 October 1991

THIS CORRELATION IS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION MEDIA DATA. THE SOURCE PROVIDED THE CORRECT NAME AND PERSONAL DATA OF CAPTAIN EARL P. HOPPER JR IN A COPY OF AN OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT MIA DOCUMENT. (REF 3)

=== REFERENCES ===

26 April 1983

REFERENCES: <1> RPT , 432ND TRW (DPMP), AF FORM 484 W/STATEMENTS, 14 JAN 68. <2> RPT , HQS USAF, (AFMPC/DPMSCB), DEBRIEFING STATEMENT OF LTC KEITH N. HALL, 19 SEPT 75. <3> 91-208, JCRC LNO BKK TH 170820Z JUN 91. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93. <5> CDR, JTF-FA/J2 231802Z FEB 94.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

28 September 1982

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON EARL P. HOPPER JR. WAS PASSED TO THE SRV VIETNAMESE OFFICE FOR SEEKING MISSING PERSONS DURING THE 9-28 SEP 82 NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES VISIT TO HANOI. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED DURING THE 25-28 SEP 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

26 April 1983

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS GIVEN TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN HANOI IN AUG 79 BY MEMBERS OF THE WOLFF DELEGATION. A FOLDER WAS ALSO PASSED TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN DEC 82.

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

17 February 1994

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE 3 FEB 94 TECHNICAL MEETING.

CASE: 0981

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

26 April 1983

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: EARL P. HOPPER 0981-0-01, AND KEITH N. HALL,
0981-1-02.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

3 December 1993

ON 11 NOV 93, IE2 INVESTIGATED CASE 0981 IN XUAN NHA VILLAGE, MOC CHAU DISTRICT, SON LA PROVINCE. IE2 INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON A PLANE CRASH IN SOUTHERN SON LA PROVINCE. A CREWMAN WAS ALLEGEDLY CAPTURED AND EVENTUALLY TAKEN TO HANOI. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 0981. BOTH WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF A CRASH SITE IN JUL 77. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY FOUND AN UNIDENTIFIED BONE FRAGMENT AMONG THE WRECKAGE. HE STATED HE LOST THE BONE SEVERAL YEARS LATER. HE ALSO FOUND A HELMET, A PARACHUTE, A PISTOL, AND A SEAT. ACCORDING TO THE WITNESS, THESE ITEMS WERE GIVEN TO DISTRICT AUTHORITIES WHO RETURNED THEM TO VILLAGES. THE ITEMS WERE REPORTEDLY DESTROYED THROUGH PERSONAL USE BY THE VILLAGERS. NEITHER INDIVIDUAL HAD FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS INCIDENT. THE ALLEGED CRASH SITE AND THE OFFICIAL INCIDENT LOCATION FOR THIS CASE ARE IN A REMOTE, MOUNTAINOUS REGION, REQUIRING A THREE-TO-FOUR-DAY WALK. THE ROAD LEADING TO THE NEAREST VILLAGE (15 KILOMETERS FROM THE INCIDENT LOCATION FOR CASE 0981) WAS FLOODED. THEREFORE, IE2 WAS UNABLE TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS. (REF 4)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

2 March 1994

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PILOTS DOWNED IN MOC CHAU FROM 14/6/1965 TO 27/6/1972." LINE ENTRY # 9 OF THIS DOCUMENT CORRELATED TO REFNO 0981-1-02, BASED ON DATE OF INCIDENT, STATUS, CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS AND GENERAL LOCATION. (REF 5)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 8 APRIL 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0981-0-01 (ACCNO 0838)
Name: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JR.

Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Date Status assigned: 14 Jul 1982

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	A -
Grade	O2	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	000080425	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	K453221
Birth date	21 Jul 1943	Weight	185 lb / 83.8 kg	Duty pos	NAVIGATOR
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	OTHER	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 48QVH774777
Lat/Long: 203560N / 1044659E
Country: NORTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: SON LA
(formerly):
Mission District: MOC CHAU
Mission Date: 10 Jan 1968 1607L
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Feb 94, Sep 93, Sep 85, Sep 82
Investigations: Oct 93, Feb 94
Surveys: Feb 94
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4D	Serial: 8704
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J7915
Call Sign: REMATCH 03	1 Serial: 439906
Year: 66	2 Serial: 439909

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or-Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 8 APRIL 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0981-1-02 (ACCNO 0804) Status: (T) RELEASED
Name: HALL, KEITH NORMAN Date Status assigned: 14 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	
Grade	O3	Hair		Complexion	
SSAN	DATA	Eyes		Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	61501	Height	in /0.00 mtrs	Weapon No	K458223
Birth date		Weight	lb / 0.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State		Religion		PW Camp	HANOI PW DETE

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QVH774777	48QWJ883248
Lat/Long:	203560N / 1044659E	210125N / 1055059E
Country:	NORTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	3
Mission Province:	SON LA	HA NOI
(formerly):		HANOI
Mission District:	MOC CHAU	HOAN KIEM
Mission Date:	10 Jan 1968 1607L	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	Remote area.	None.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Oct 93, Feb 94
Surveys: Feb 94
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: F4D	Serial: 8704
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: J7915
Call Sign: REMATCH 03	1 Serial: 439906
Year: 66	2 Serial: 439909

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0981

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

26 April 1983

ON 10 JANUARY 1968, 1LT EARL P. HOOPER JR. PILOT, CAPT KEITH N. HALL, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, WERE ABOARD AN F4D AIRCRAFT (#66-8704) NUMBER THREE AIRCRAFT IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR ON A MIG COMBAT AIR PATROL MISSION. FIFTEEN MINUTES FROM HOA LAC AIRFIELD (TARGET) THE FLIGHT WAS ADVISED OF SAM LAUNCH. THE SECOND OF THREE SAM'S WAS OBSERVED TO EXPLODE SLIGHTLY BELOW THE AIRCRAFT. AFTER BEING TOLD BY THE FLIGHT LEADER THAT HE WAS ON FIRE, AND BEING ADVISED BY HIS WINGMAN TO GET OUT, CAPT HALL ADVISED THE FLIGHT THAT THEY WERE EJECTING. (REF 1 & 2)

CAPT HALL TOLD 1LT HOPPER TO EJECT BUT RECEIVED NO REPLY. CAPT HALL SAID "EARL GET OUT", AS THEY DID NOT HAVE MUCH TIME. 1LT HOPPER STATED "I'VE PULLED ON IT AND IT DID NOT GO" (MEANING THAT THE EJECTION SEAT HANDLE FAILED). CAPT HALL ADVISED 1LT HOPPER TO GO AGAIN TO WHICH 1LT HOPPER REPLIED "YOU GO". CAPT HALL PULLED THE PRIMARY AND WHEN IT FAILED PULLED THE ALTERNATE TO EJECT.

THE AIRCRAFT WAS OBSERVED TO BREAK INTO THREE LARGE PIECES AS IT ENTERED THE LOW CLOUD COVERAGE SEVERAL WITNESSES GAVE VARIOUS STORIES. THE FLIGHT LEADER BELIEVED HE SAW A DARK SHAPE LEAVING THE AIRCRAFT. FOLLOWED BY THE SAME TYPE OBJECT, BUT DID NOT SEE EITHER PARACHUTE. A SECOND WITNESS SAW TWO OBJECTS LEAVE AT DIFFERENT TIMES, AND A THIRD SAW NEITHER CANOPY NOR SEATS LEAVE. A FOURTH SAW TWO SPOTS BEHIND THE PLANE, BUT WAS UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT THEY WERE. A FIFTH SAW TWO CANOPIES BUT ONLY ONE SEAT EJECT.

AFTER BAIL OUT ONCE ON THE GROUND CAPT HALL ESTABLISHED VOICE CONTACT WITH THE FLIGHT LEADER, AND THE SAR AIRCRAFT IN THE AREA. HE ALSO HEARD 10 TO 12 ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT 1LT HOPPER BY THE SAR, AS WELL AS ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT 1LT HOPPER HIMSELF, ALL WITHOUT SUCCESS. DUE TO LOW CLOUD COVERAGE SAR AIRCRAFT WAS UNABLE TO EFFECT RESCUE. TWO WEAK BEEPERS WERE HEARD BUT COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED AS COMING FROM 1LT HOPPER. CAPT HALL WAS CAPTURED AND RELEASED DURING OPERATION HOMECOMING. (REF 1 & 2)

WHILE HELD IN CAPTIVITY CAPT HALL NEVER RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON 1LT HOPPER, EXCEPT FOR AN INCIDENT IN AUG 1970, WHILE BEING INTERROGATED FOR ABOUT 10 MIN CONCERNING 1LT HOPPER. CAPT HALL ASKED THE INTERROGATOR IF 1LT HOPPER WAS A POW HE WAS TOLD THAT THE INTERROGATOR DID NOT KNOW. (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. 1LT HOPPERS NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO

CASE: 0981

RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. 1LT HOPPER IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

22 October 1991

THIS CORRELATION IS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION MEDIA DATA. THE SOURCE PROVIDED THE CORRECT NAME AND PERSONAL DATA OF CAPTAIN EARL P. HOPPER JR IN A COPY OF AN OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT MIA DOCUMENT. (REF 3)

=== REFERENCES ===

26 April 1983

REFERENCES: <1> RPT 432ND TRW (DPMP), AF FORM 484 W/STATEMENTS, 14 JAN 68. <2> RPT HQS USAF, (AFMPC/DPMSCB), DEBRIEFING STATEMENT OF LTC KEITH N. HALL, 19 SEPT 75. <3> 91-208, JCRC LNO BKK TH 170820Z JUN 91. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 200247Z NOV 93. <5> CDR, JTF-FA/J2 231802Z FEB 94. <6> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH 260429Z MAR 94.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

28 September 1982

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON EARL P. HOPPER JR. WAS PASSED TO THE SRV VIETNAMESE OFFICE FOR SEEKING MISSING PERSONS DURING THE 9-28 SEP 82 NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES VISIT TO HANOI. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED DURING THE 25-28 SEP 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

26 April 1983

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS GIVEN TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN HANOI IN AUG 79 BY MEMBERS OF THE WOLFF DELEGATION. A FOLDER WAS ALSO PASSED TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT IN DEC 82.

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

17 February 1994

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 0981-0-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE 3 FEB 94 TECHNICAL MEETING.

CASE: 0981

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

26 April 1983

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: EARL P. HOPPER 0981-0-01, AND KEITH N. HALL, 0981-1-02.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

3 December 1993

ON 11 NOV 93, IE2 INVESTIGATED CASE 0981 IN XUAN NHA VILLAGE, MOC CHAU DISTRICT, SON LA PROVINCE. IE2 INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON A PLANE CRASH IN SOUTHERN SON LA PROVINCE. A CREWMAN WAS ALLEGEDLY CAPTURED AND EVENTUALLY TAKEN TO HANOI. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 0981. BOTH WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF A CRASH SITE IN JUL 77. ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY FOUND AN UNIDENTIFIED BONE FRAGMENT AMONG THE WRECKAGE. HE STATED HE LOST THE BONE SEVERAL YEARS LATER. HE ALSO FOUND A HELMET, A PARACHUTE, A PISTOL, AND A SEAT. ACCORDING TO THE WITNESS, THESE ITEMS WERE GIVEN TO DISTRICT AUTHORITIES WHO RETURNED THEM TO VILLAGES. THE ITEMS WERE REPORTEDLY DESTROYED THROUGH PERSONAL USE BY THE VILLAGERS. NEITHER INDIVIDUAL HAD FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS INCIDENT. THE ALLEGED CRASH SITE AND THE OFFICIAL INCIDENT LOCATION FOR THIS CASE ARE IN A REMOTE, MOUNTAINOUS REGION, REQUIRING A THREE-TO-FOUR-DAY WALK. THE ROAD LEADING TO THE NEAREST VILLAGE (15 KILOMETERS FROM THE INCIDENT LOCATION FOR CASE 0981) WAS FLOODED. THEREFORE, IE2 WAS UNABLE TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS. (REF 4)

4 April 1994

ON 4 AND 5 MAR 94, IE1 INVESTIGATED CASE 0981 IN XUAN NHA VILLAGE, MOC CHAU DISTRICT, SON LA PROVINCE. IE1 INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION ON A PLANE CRASH IN SOUTHERN SON LA PROVINCE. ALLEGEDLY A CREWMAN WAS CAPTURED AND EVENTUALLY TAKEN TO HANOI. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 0981. THE WITNESS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY OF A CRASH SITE IN JUL 77. THE SITE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY SCAVENGED AND THERE ARE MAJOR TRAILS THAT LEAD TO THE LOCATION FROM MANY OF THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES. THE WITNESS HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS INCIDENT. IE1 WAS ABLE TO CONDUCT SITE SURVEYS FOR THE WITNESS LOCATION AND THE U.S. RECORD SITE. THE SEARCHES YIELDED NO EVIDENCE OF AN AIRCRAFT CRASH, BURIAL SITE, REMAINS, OR PERSONAL EFFECTS. (REF 6)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

2 March 1994

ON 31 AUG 93, THE VIETNAMESE PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN

CASE: 0981

PILOTS DOWNED IN MOC CHAU FROM 14/6/1965 TO 27/6/1972." LINE ENTRY # 9 OF THIS DOCUMENT CORRELATED TO REFNO 0981-1-02, BASED ON DATE OF INCIDENT, STATUS, CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS AND GENERAL LOCATION. (REF 5)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

21 SEP 1993

CASE 0981-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 10 JANUARY 1968, FIRST LIEUTENANT EARL P. HOPPER, JUNIOR, AND CAPTAIN KEITH N. HALL WERE THE CREW ABOARD AN F-4D FIGHTER (SERIAL NUMBER 66-8704) IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR AIRCRAFT ON A COMBAT AIR PATROL MISSION. THEIR AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY A SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE, BROKE INTO THREE PIECES AND FELL TO THE GROUND IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES VH774777, APPROXIMATELY 35 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF MOC CHAU AND 6 KILOMETERS WEST-NORTHWEST OF TA COM, SON LA PROVINCE. CAPTAIN HALL PARACHUTED TO THE GROUND AND WAS CAPTURED. ON HIS RETURN TO U.S. CONTROL IN 1973, HE STATED THAT AFTER THE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT, HE TOLD FIRST LIEUTENANT HOPPER TO EJECT BUT HE DID NOT OBSERVE ANY OTHER PARACHUTE OR HEAR ANY EMERGENCY RADIO TRANSMISSIONS FROM FIRST LIEUTENANT HOPPER. THE OTHER FLIGHT MEMBERS OBSERVED OBJECTS SEPARATING FROM THE DAMAGED AIRCRAFT BUT DID NOT SEE ANY PARACHUTES.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JUNIOR
RANK: FIRST LIEUTENANT, U.S. AIR FORCE
DATE OF BIRTH: 21 JULY 1943
RACE: CAUCASIAN

PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE
VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE
29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING

CASE 0981-0-01

HEIGHT: 1.78 METERS

WEIGHT: 83.8 KILOGRAMS

HAIR: BROWN

EYES: BLUE



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BOX 64044

CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044

21 SEP 1993

Vụ số 0981-0-01

Tờ Tường Thuật

Vào ngày 10 tháng giêng năm 1968, Trung Úy Earl P. Hopper, Junior. và Đại Úy Keith N. Hall là phi hành đoàn trên máy bay chiến đấu kiểu F-4D (số hiệu 66-8704) trong biên đội gồm có bốn máy bay có nhiệm vụ tuần tiễu tác chiến. Máy bay họ bị tên lửa đất đối không bắn trúng, bị vỡ thành ba mảnh và xuống đất trong vùng phụ cận ở tọa độ VH774777, cách Mộc Châu khoảng độ 35 cây số về phía đông nam và cách Ta Com 6 cây số về phía tây tây-bắc, tỉnh Sơn La. Đại Úy Hall nhảy dù xuống đất và bị bắt. Khi ông ta trở về Mỹ vào năm 1973, ông ta nói rằng sau khi máy bay bị bắn trúng, ông ta bảo Trung Úy Hopper nhảy dù nhưng không thấy chiếc dù nào khác hoặc nghe sự phát thanh cấp cứu gì cả bằng ra-di-ô của Trung Úy Hopper đâu. Các phi hành viên khác trong biên đội thấy các đồ vật chia từ máy bay bị thiệt hại nhưng không thấy chiếc dù nào cả.

Sau đây là những chi tiết liên quan:

Họ và tên: Hopper, Earl Pearson Junior

Cấp bậc: Trung Úy, Không Quân Hoa Kỳ

Ngày sinh: Ngày 21 tháng 7 năm 1943

Chủng tộc: Da trắng

Chiều cao: 1 thước 78

Cân nặng: 83 ki 8

Màu tóc: Nâu

Màu mắt: Xanh



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BOX 64044

CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044

CASE 0981-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 10 JANUARY 1968, FIRST LIEUTENANT EARL P. HOPPER, JUNIOR, AND CAPTAIN KEITH N. HALL WERE THE CREW ABOARD AN F-4D FIGHTER (SERIAL NUMBER 66-8704) IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR AIRCRAFT ON A COMBAT AIR PATROL MISSION OVER NORTHERN VIETNAM. THEIR AIRCRAFT WAS HIT BY A SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE, BROKE INTO THREE PIECES AND FELL TO THE GROUND IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES VH774777, APPROXIMATELY 35 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF MOC CHAU AND 6 KILOMETERS WEST-NORTHWEST OF TA COM, SON LA PROVINCE. CAPTAIN HALL PARACHUTED TO THE GROUND AND WAS CAPTURED. ON HIS RETURN TO U.S. CONTROL IN 1973, HE STATED THAT AFTER THE AIRCRAFT WAS HIT, HE TOLD FIRST LIEUTENANT HOPPER TO EJECT BUT HE DID NOT OBSERVE A PARACHUTE OR HEAR ANY EMERGENCY RADIO TRANSMISSIONS FROM FIRST LIEUTENANT HOPPER. THE OTHER FLIGHT MEMBERS OBSERVED OBJECTS SEPARATING FROM THE DAMAGED AIRCRAFT BUT DID NOT SEE ANY PARACHUTES.

ON 11 NOVEMBER 1993, A JOINT TEAM VISITED XUAN NHA VILLAGE, MOC CHAU DISTRICT, SON LA PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES. MR. DINH VAN XUAN, A FORMER DISTRICT MILITARY COMMANDER FROM 1970-1972, REPORTED THAT LATE ONE AFTERNOON ON AN UNRECALLED DATE, HE WAS INFORMED BY XUAN NHA VILLAGERS THAT AN AIRCRAFT HAD CRASHED ON A MOUNTAIN IN THANH HOA PROVINCE.

PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE
VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING
THE 3 FEB 94 TECHNICAL MEETING

CASE 0981-0-01

THE MILITIA FORCES HAD CAPTURED A RED-HAIRED CAUCASIAN WHO WAS MOVED TO MOC CHAU DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS THE FOLLOWING MORNING AND EVENTUALLY TRANSFERRED TO THE DEFENSE MINISTRY IN HANOI. IN JULY 1977, MR. XUAN REPORTED HE FOUND AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE NEAR A JUNGLE STREAM IN SOUTHERN SON LA PROVINCE. HE RECOVERED A HELMET, A PARACHUTE, A PISTOL AND A SEAT ABOUT 50 METERS FROM THE WRECKAGE. THE ITEMS WERE GIVEN TO DISTRICT AUTHORITIES. MR. XUAN ALSO FOUND A SMALL BONE FRAGMENT WHICH HE LOST SEVERAL YEARS LATER. THE SECOND WITNESS, MR. DINH VAN PHANH, REPORTED HE WAS ONE OF SEVERAL VILLAGERS WHO SCAVENGED THE WRECKAGE. HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS FOUND IN THE AREA. THE ALLEGED CRASH SITE AND THE OFFICIAL INCIDENT LOCATION ARE IN A REMOTE, MOUNTAINOUS REGION, REQUIRING A THREE-TO-FOUR DAY WALK. DUE TO THE FLOODED CONDITIONS IN THE AREA, THE TEAM WAS UNABLE TO INVESTIGATE THE SITES.

PERTINENT DATA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JUNIOR
RANK: FIRST LIEUTENANT, U.S. AIR FORCE
DATE OF BIRTH: 21 JULY 1943
RACE: CAUCASIAN
HEIGHT: 1.78 METERS
WEIGHT: 83.8 KILOGRAMS
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BLUE



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BOX 64044

CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044

Vụ số 0981-0-01

Tờ Tường Thuật

Vào ngày 10 tháng 1 năm 1968, Trung úy EARL P. HOPPER, JUNIOR, và Đại úy KEITH N. HALL là phi hành viên trên chiếc máy bay chiến đấu F-4D (số hiệu 66-8704) trong biên đội bốn chiếc vào nhiệm vụ tuần tra qua miền bắc Việt Nam. Chiếc máy bay bị bắn trúng bằng tên lửa đất đối không, bị vỡ thành ba mảnh và rơi xuống trong phạm vi của tọa độ VH774777, khoảng 35 cây số phía đông nam của Mộc Châu và 6 cây số phía tây tây bắc của Ta Com, tỉnh Sơn La. Đại úy HALL nhảy dù xuống đất và bị bắt. Sau khi trở về Mỹ trong năm 1973, ông ta nói sau khi máy bay bị bắn trúng, ông ta nói Trung úy HOPPER nhảy ra nhưng ông ta không thấy dù hay nghe tín hiệu cấp cứu từ Trung úy HOPPER. Tổ lái khác thấy có vật rời khỏi chiếc máy bay bị phá huỷ nhưng không thấy dù.

Vào ngày 11 tháng 11 năm 1993, một đội hỗn hợp đến xã Xuân Nha, huyện Mộc Châu, tỉnh Sơn La để điều tra vụ này. Đội phỏng vấn hai nhân chứng. Ông Định Văn Xuân, cựu Xã Đội Trưởng từ năm 1970 - 1972, cho biết vào buổi chiều không nhớ ngày, dân xã Xuân Nha cho ông ta biết có chiếc máy bay bị rơi trên núi ở tỉnh Thanh Hóa. Lực lượng dân quân bắt sống người da trắng tóc đỏ, ngày hôm sau chuyển tới bộ chỉ huy huyện Mộc Châu và thời gian sau chuyển tới bộ quốc phòng ở Hà Nội. Trong tháng 7 năm 1977, ông Xuân bao đã tìm thấy xác máy bay gần suối ở trong rừng phía nam của tỉnh Sơn La. Ông ta thu hồi một non phi công, một cái dù, một khẩu súng lục và một cái ghế cách xác máy bay khoảng 50 mét. Những hiện vật trao qua cho

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chính quyền huyện. Ông Xuân cũng tìm được một mảnh xương nhỏ nhưng bị mất vài năm sau. Nhân chứng thứ hai, ông Định Văn Phan, cho biết ông là một trong những người dân xã thu nhặt xác máy bay. Ông ta không biết gì về hải cốt hay vật cá nhân tìm được ở trong khu vực. Chỗ được cho là chỗ rơi và hiện trường theo hồ sơ Mỹ đều ở khu vực hẻo lánh, vùng núi, mất ba đến bốn ngày đường bộ. Vì lộn trong khu vực, đội không thể điều tra hiện trường.

Sau đây là những chi tiết liên quan:

Họ và tên: HOPPER, EARL PEARSON JUNIOR

Cấp bậc: Trung úy, Không quân Mỹ

Ngày sinh: 21 tháng 7 năm 1943

Chủng tộc: Da trắng

Chiều cao: 1.78 mét

Cân nặng: 83.8 kí

Màu tóc: Nâu

Màu mắt: Xanh